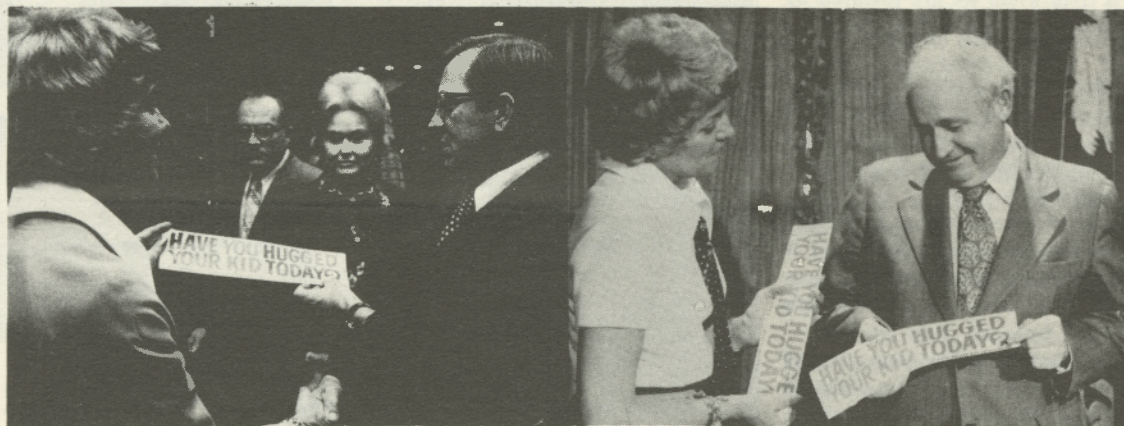


## Agency Asks for \$7.5 Million



### *Have You Hugged Your Kid Today?*

Board Chairman Mrs. Barbara Sylvester of Florence presents bumper stickers to Gov.-Elect James Edwards, left, and Gov. John West. The message represents a new thrust for the agency, according to Mrs. Sylvester. Free bumper stickers may be obtained by writing, "State Supervisor, Youth Bureau Division, S. C. Department of Youth Services, 2800-B Bush River Road, Columbia, S.C. 29210."

## Florence Art Students Win Awards

Six students at the Florence Campus won 11 art awards at the recent Eastern Carolina Agricultural Fair in Florence.

The students, instructed by William C. Prows, submitted drawings and three-dimensional "sculptures" composed of colored yarn, metal, wood and paper.

"It's completely changed attitudes here," said Prows, who is in his second year as art instructor at Florence. "Success has greatly turned them on to art."

### **HESITANT ENTHUSIASM**

Prows remembered when it wasn't so. "I came here out of graduate school at the University of South Carolina," said the personable artist. "There was a 'hesitant enthusiasm' when we first started. The kids were concerned with the effort required of them. After they saw the relatively high quality of art work, they realized their expectations would be based on their own efforts."

"Initially," Prows continued, "It was a matter of them having to acclimate to me and me to them. Now that we're adapted to one another, we're beginning to pick up speed. These kids haven't even begun to reach

their potential."

Asked if there was a difference in the creativeness between middle class children at the students at Florence, Prows replied, "Yes, but not in the way

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## *An Advocate For All Youth*

With this first issue of *The Youth Advocate*, the S.C. Department of Youth Services has added a new dimension to the care of children in trouble.

It is quite obvious that in order to properly do our job, we must continue to grow, progress and change. We are requesting a larger budget than ever before in order to more properly supervise and rehabilitate children who have had little or no structure in their lives.

We are becoming bigger and more sophisticated. We hope, with this new publication, which takes the place of "We Care," to record the depth of our commitment to children who need us. Simultaneously, we hope to reach out and provide a liaison between the troubled child and the services that he so desperately needs.

Therefore, today we present a new agency newsletter with a new message: an ear, a voice, an advocate for all youth, and for those who work for, who love and who cherish them.

S. C. STATE LIBRARY

— Grady A. Decell

The S. C. Department of Youth Services proposed a \$7.5 million budget for the 1975-76 fiscal year.

In a presentation in October to the Budget and Control Board, the agency requested a 27.7 percent increase, up \$1.6 million from 1974-75.

The majority of additional expenses — \$1.3 million — came in Personnel and Other Operating Expenses.

The agency is requesting, for instance, \$302,404 for 46 new youth counselors, and six Directors of Cottage Life at a cost of \$53,802.

"Agency population is growing," Board Chairman Mrs. Barbara Sylvester said. "Last year the average population (in the institutions) was 725. This year it's 980, or an increase of 35 percent.

"This is resulting in overcrowded conditions," she continued. "Many of our cottages have wall-to-wall beds. With such limited supervision, because our counselors have additional children to look after, our students are growing more recalcitrant. They are creating more problems."

The agency requested a ratio of seven youth counselors to 20 children who are on campuses with individual rooms. It also asked for 10 counselors for extremely disturbed children who require maximum security.

"We do have a problem," Mrs. Sylvester said. "The runaway rate has increased 16 percent to 459 for the year. This can be reversed only by increasing the supervision ratio of staff members to children."

The agency asked for six recreational specialists — one each for John G. Richards, Willow Lane, Florence, Reception and Evaluation Center, and two for the Intensive Care Units.

"This is another way to prevent runaways and to provide treatment," Mrs. Sylvester said.

The agency also requested three vehicle operators to trans-

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# From The Chaplain

## CHRISTMAS

Christmas is a special time of the year when Christians turn their attention to the events surrounding the birth of Jesus Christ. We give thought, meditation and prayer in our consideration of the birth of Christ in a very real subjective way and in a special way each Christmas.

A true spiritual Christmas is a wonderful experience. It is an experience we are in danger of missing in the rush of all the secular activities that take place each Christmas. More than a time of giving gifts to each other. Christmas is a time when we are inspired by God's love to give ourselves to Christ and to each other in Christian concern.

The giving of gifts can be a wonderful experience if one really gets involved in sharing his love for his fellowman with others. What better experience can any person have than that of helping his small son or daughter select a special gift for mother, brother or sister? This is just a marvelous, wonderful experience.

Giving should be giving without expecting something in return. When God gave His Son Jesus Christ and Christ gave His Life it was for the single, simple but sublime purpose of inspiring all men everywhere to give of themselves to the solving of humanity's problems.

Christmas serves its wonderful purpose when we are revived and inspired to make every day a day Dedicated to Christ centered living. In this sense we not only experience the birth of the new-born Christ, but we experience growing up in the Christ.

It is my prayer that this Christmas will be a real birth of a cring, sharing, experience for all of us. May this experience bloom in all the beauty of a rose on a thorn bush. Then others will observe it deal with it with care and carefulness. We will become better individuals, more efficient in our helping profession in relationships and fellowship with our fellowman.

Wishing you a Christ-centered  
Christmas and a year of successful  
Learning and helpful in 1975.

## Decell Selected To Group

Grady A. Decell, director for the S. C. Department of Youth Services, has been elected to the executive committee of the National Association of State Juvenile Delinquency Program Administrators.

Decell was named to a one-year term on the national organization's governing board.

The association acts as a liaison between the 45 administrators of state juvenile delinquency

programs. Members meet periodically to discuss mutual problems on youth in trouble.



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This newsletter is printed by Youth Services students on the John G. Richards campus.

Mrs. Barbara A. Sylvester ..... Chairman  
Grady A. Decell ..... Director  
Edward B. Borden ..... Editor



## FLORENCE ART WINNERS

William C. Prows, left, art instructor at the Florence campus, discusses techniques with John, who won third place premiums at the Eastern Carolina Agricultural Fair in Florence.

## From Page 1

you'd think.

"They're as creative as middle class groups. They are more inclined to try something, but they don't use as many methods to solve problems. You have to be careful not to give them a pattern to follow."

## EXCELLENT JOB

The awards were sponsored by the Florence Art Association, and Prows gave them credit "for doing an excellent job."

The awards and success the boys have enjoyed would not have been possible without their participation.

The fair, said Prows, "was just a beginning. The kids' motivation is very high. They didn't feel like competing because they didn't think they could win. They're very sensitive to success of any sort. And now that they know they can, it's going to be just a matter of guiding them."

## Eggleston Named Supervisor

Mrs. Lee Anita Eggleston has been appointed Regional Supervisor of the Columbia Youth Bureau.

The announcement was made by George B. Grogan, Deputy Director for Youth Bureau Services.

Mrs. Eggleston was Youth Counselor Coordinator for the Pre-Trial Intervention Project in Columbia. In her new position, she will be responsible for the administration of the Columbia Youth Bureau.

The bureau recommends, implements and monitors treatment programs for children under 17 with behavior problems.

"We were fortunate to gain a person of Mrs. Eggleston's experience and background," Gro-



gan said. "The Youth Bureau concept is still new to South Carolina and we're seeking only the best people available to work in it."

Mrs. Eggleston is a 1963 graduate of South Carolina State College in Orangeburg. She did graduate work at Benedict College and obtained an M.Ed. in Educational Administration and Supervision from Virginia State College in Petersburg, Virginia.



## Tutorial Workshop Teaches Love And Responsibility

Love is so thick here you can cut it with a knife.

The dozen students and their teachers in the Rock Hill Youth Bureau's Tutorial Workshop were rapping in their Sunset Park School classroom on a warm November morning.

The kids — black and white, male and female — were scattered in a semicircle about the room on chairs and sofas. Harry Jolley, superintendent of the workshop, quietly puffed on a pipe as two teen-age girls talked animatedly next to him. Teacher Jean-Marie Platt sat behind the girls and watched their antics with amusement.

One of the girls — a petite 14-year-old brunette — made a caustic remark.

"What's that, Sharon?" Mrs. Platt asked. "Say that again. I didn't hear you."

The girl repeated her remark — the kind which would have sent her out of the room in another school.

"Is that what you really believe, Sharon?"

Mrs. Platt dug playfully at Sharon's ribs. "Say it again, Sharon, say it again!" Sharon and her companion broke up in laughter. Mrs. Platt reached down and hugged her. Sharon beamed.

Jolley continued to puff contentedly on his pipe. The conversation in the room remained at its normally high pace. Clearly, only the visitor had attached significance to this extraordinary event.

### SALVAGE KIDS

"We reach out and touch children here," said Jolley. "We let them know that we love them and care about them. That, and because we have a small teacher-student ratio, leads us to salvage some kids that fail elsewhere."

Across the room four young black males sat quietly to themselves, observing the rapport between teachers and students with awe. "Those boys are new," Jolley remarked, "and they just aren't sure what's going on. They don't trust adults, and yet they see their peers in give-and-take sessions with them."

He knocked the ashes from his pipe. "We teach them that

we're not the final authority. Just because we have the position doesn't mean we know everything. We want them to make decisions on their own."

The Tutorial Workshop began in March, 1972, in Rock Hill under the Model Cities program. The Department of Youth Services picked up the funding last July. The program was seen as a means of relating to children who are having problems with school. The present class includes runaways, kids with behavioral problems and some with extremely poor academic performances. They are referred by various agencies in Rock Hill.

### GEARED TO SUCCESS

Education, which begins on the student's individual level, is geared towards success, Jolley added. "Many of our kids that started in September couldn't visualize a three-digit number, such as two hundred-and-five. They'd leave out the zero every time."

Now some of them are teaching the newer students — one of the innovative techniques at the Workshop.

The program also teaches them responsibility. Each is given an assignment in a group project. If one fails to do his share, the entire project suffers.

"We deal with personal problems in two formal group sessions per week," said Jolley. "The students put forth ideas and the other students react to them."

Additionally, students do things that are fun — such as constructing chimes from bottles and doing craft projects for Christmas.

### FOLLOW-UP

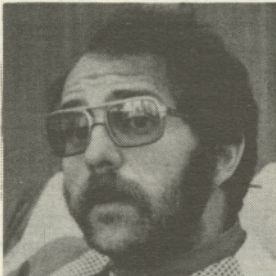
"I conducted a follow-up of our first 88 students," Jolley said. "Fifty-two were in school a year later and were remaining there. That's our goal — to get these kids back into public school. It takes about a year."

"Public school?" Sharon interrupted. "No way. I like it right here. I never want to leave."

Sharon glanced at Mrs. Platt and got what she'd been fishing for — another motherly squeeze.



Teacher With Student



From Page 1

port children who are in need of services and to return them to Family Courts from the Reception and Evaluation Center.

One of the biggest needs, Mrs. Sylvester said, is in medical and dental care. "We have a moral and legal responsibility to provide adequate care for children given to us," Mrs. Sylvester said. "We must have funds to furnish a dental clinic."

The agency requested \$54,805 for a psychometrist and three in dental needs, and \$37,636 in psychologists.

Another large request was the take-over funding of the Youth Bureau Division. The program was begun with federal funds. If it is to continue, the state must absorb these staff members. Of the \$665,795 state portion, more than \$140,000 is due to an increase in the state's share of the program.

Jean Marie Platt helps a student with English during class at Rock Hill's Tutorial Workshop, a part of the Rock Hill Youth Bureau. Harry Jolley, left, discusses program's progress.

### Greenville Symposium

Some 250 Greenville County citizens participated in a day-long "Justice for Youth" symposium Nov. 20 at the Greenville Y.W.C.A.

Speakers for the symposium, sponsored by the Women's Exchange for Community Concerns, included George Grogan, Deputy Director for Youth Bureaus, Department of Youth Services and Greenville County Family Court Judge James Sparks.

The program was designed to assess Greenville's concerns on children in the community who were delinquent, in foster homes, abused, neglected or runaways.

The results of 11 sub-group meetings were tabulated at the end of the symposium and presented to the entire group. The symposium is to continue to meet and focus on youth concerns.



## Dreams Do Come True For Charleston Unit

Dreams do come true.

For Marshall Rollins, Unit Coordinator of the Charleston Youth Bureau, the dream has been a long time in coming—two years, as a matter of fact.

The dream?



A 40-by-10 foot trailer that Santa stuffed a month earlier into Rollins' stocking.

"We've had 12 people cramped into three offices. Now we're going to have them in five offices. It's going to be a lot, lot better, believe me."

The trailer was moved onto a temporary site next to the Charleston County Youth Detention Center—where the Youth Bureau has been headquartered since Nov. 1, 1971. Moving Nov.

18 were Mrs. Bernice Simmons and Mrs. Barbara Castle, social workers, and Mrs. Albertha Simmons, youth counselor in one side; and Roan Garcia, statistician, and Donna Lewis, attached Social Service Worker, the other side.



Edward B. Borden has been named Coordinator of Public Education and Information for the Agency.

Borden was director of the volunteer program for the Richland County Family Court.

He is a graduate of the University of South Carolina, and has worked on newspapers in Augusta, Ga.; Rock Hill and Columbia. Borden was public relations director at Columbia College and worked with the S.C. State Development Board.

He is a major in the Air Force Reserve and is married to the former Gwen Horton. They have four children.

## Around The Agency...

The Rev. Al Brodie, R&E, conducted Ms. June Stuart, WJDX-TV, Channel 12 North Augusta, around campus . . . Andrew Rutkowski, Supervisor of Security, conducted an Adult Education at Airport High School December 10 . . . F. Frank Lever III, Coordinator of Personnel Management Services, conducted State Personnel Analysts Kenzie Jenkins and Ms. Joyce Hedgecock on a tour and luncheon at Willow Lane . . . Participating in WIS Radio's *Bill Benton Show* Oct. 9 were Dr. Gene F. Starr, Roland D. Bollacker, R&E, and Director Grady Decell . . . Decell also appeared on WIS-TV November 1 . . . Another TV appearance was made by Dr. Starr and Rev. Brodie on Channel 12, North Augusta . . . The Rev. Horace Youngblood appeared with two students on WIS Radio October 16 . . . R. D. Bollacker addressed a Rotary International group at Hites Restaurant, Lexington, in October, . . . Farm Manager Jesse J. Fuller conducted a number of tours including Annie Burnside Kindergarten, Crane Creek Elementary School, Waverly Kindergarten, Eau Claire Kindergarten, Webber Elementary School, and Bayview Baptist Church Kindergarten . . . Chaplain Brodie spoke to ninth graders at St. Andrews Jr. High about the Reception and Evaluation Center . . . Bernice Simmons, Charleston, spoke to the Shaw Boys Club about the Charleston Youth Bureau and its role keeping kids out of trouble . . . J. P. Neal, Columbia, spoke to Brookman Elementary School P-TA as their American Education Week speaker . . . Marshall Rollins, Charleston, talked to kids at a youth rally in Charleston about the agency and proper child placement . . . The Rev. Horace Youngblood, Columbia, spoke to a University of South Carolina class on contemporary problems.

## He Creates Magic With Wax, Paints, Wigs And Imagination

He works with a dab of wax here, a spot of paint there, a wig, and miraculously, before the visitor's eyes, the transformation is made: a young, vibrant woman is changed into an old crone.

Jim Sparger has worked his magic again.

Sparger is Superintendent of Drama for the Department. He is currently teaching dramatic techniques to students in all units on the Columbia institutional campuses.

The son of Army parents, Sparger "mostly grew up" in New Mexico and went to New Mexico State where he studied drama. He was a medic in Korea, Vietnam, and participated in theatres in Korea, Japan, Louisiana and New Mexico.

One of Sparger's strong suits is doing stunts, a technique he developed in the West. "They really go over big with the kids," said Sparger.

His specialty, in case you're interested, is falls.

No, he won't do a trick on the spur of the moment. "I nev-

er try anything without rehearsing it. That's the surest way to get hurt."

Sparger teaches all phases of drama to the students, including scene building, costume designing, script writing, acting, lights, etc.

Recently Sparger's students produced "The Life that Led to Crossfire," a play written by girls at Willow Lane. "We showed it to the Board. They did a pretty good job. The story was

about a girl who died while on drugs."

Sparger, who was a University of South Carolina graduate assistant in drama, met a Youth Services employee at the Arts in the Parks convention, and came to the agency first as a volunteer. "A couple of state grants later the agency absorbed me."

Sparger has been working almost strictly with the institutions. "These kids are like kids anywhere. They respond to the

different aspects of a play. They like both seeing and participating in live performances.

"And the beauty of this type of thing is that it can be used in so many ways. For instance, a play can be an artistic or creative type of thing; it can be educational; or recreational. It can be used as a treatment, as in a psycho-drama."

Presently he's working with Behavior Modification on drama classes; the intensive care unit at Willow Lane on one-act plays; and a production at John G. Richards.

Sparger's hobby is his make-up kit. More than once he's gotten into the shell of a case-hardened child by painting a scar, a knife wound or a bruise. "They really dig those," he said. "They especially like them if they have a little blood in them."

And when he's not at the campuses he's — yep, you guessed it — working with a theatre downtown.

"Drama is just not an avocation with me. It's a way of life."



"HOLD STILL, PLEASE"

Columbia State reporter Hugh Munn gets a life-like "scar" from the make-up wizardry of Jim Sparger. Munn interviewed Sparger for a feature for the newspaper.